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The Second Chapter

THE proposition of a continuous railway between Kapa and Kekaha is lined with even greater possibilities than are suggested by the matter of profitable passenger traffic. Between the lines of articles on this subject that have gone before, readers of THE GARDEN ISLAND, interested in the matter (and we feel quite certain there are many) have probably discerned traces of these larger and more important considerations.

We refer to the freight business-sugar, if you will.

It may not be next year nor the year after, but it is manifest destiny that Nawiliwili harbor will be a reality of the not far distant future. Great steamers will enter, discharge and receive cargoes there. Passengers will arrive and depart in larger numbers than ever before. On account of the superior boarding and landing conveniences the people of all parts of Kauai will depart from and return to Nawiliwili.

Nawiliwili will become, in other words, to Kauai what Hilo now is to the island of Hawaii—with railways extending away to the plantations on either side.

In our first articles on this subject we dwelt upon the large possibilities for a less extensive railway proposition in the business of carrying passengers, local merchandise and the mails between towns on the island from Kapa to Kekaha; and it was shown that such an enterprise would be a money-maker. The freight carrying idea is now presented as the second part of the suggestion. We hope the two may be considered together, for, to the persons following up the subject, still another point in favor of such an enterprise, has probably already suggested itself, and will be treated by us later on.

We are hopeful that our citizens who believe in Kauai, who are anxious to add to the comforts of the people of the Garden Island and to make our insular domain more beautiful and attractive and lovable than it even now is, and at the same time are seeking safer and better investments for their money than are to be found in the doubtful offerings that come to them from foreign parts—are seriously thinking on this matter, and that they may sooner or later see their way clear to take it up and put it through to a successful and happy conclusion.

The High School

The public meeting held last Friday evening to arrange details for opening the Kauai High And Grammar School was highly satisfactory in every particular, with the single exception, perhaps, that there were not so many prospective patrons of the school in attendance as there might have been. However, it should be a satisfaction to know that many of the vexed questions that have faced the community were dealt with in a manner that augurs well for the future of the institution.

Everything is now up to parents of the island who have children eligible to the benefits of the school. It is not figured that there will be any large number at the start requiring boarding accommodations in Lihue, and the needs of these can probably be met quite easily. When the demand for increased facilities arises, arrangements can-

undoubtedly be made therefor. The school will start small, but it is plain to everybody, perhaps, that it will grow rapidly.

Before leaving this subject, we wish again to emphasize the fact that the Kauai High And Grammar School will not be and must never be considered as essentially a Lihue institution, of and for the benefit of Lihue alone. It will be, and must continue, what its name implies—a Kauai school, for the use and benefit of the whole island. Koloa, Makaweli, Waimea, Kapa and other towns of the island should feel and take the same interest in it as does, and will, Lihue; and work just as hard to make it a success and a credit to the island. Let the whole of Kauai view the matter in that spirit and the school will be a great success and do much good.

Holstein's Platform

In announcing his candidacy for re-election to the House of Representatives, H. L. Holstein, of Kohala, promulgated a set of principles, or ideas, upon which he would stand or fall. As is usual in so many such cases, most of them are idealistic, but the following will probably strike a popular chord, although it may be somewhat harder to carry it out:

"We believe the ideal system of homestead farming is that in which mill corporations and homesteaders perfectly co-operate. It is comparatively easy to acquire such co-operation where the territorial government superintends the system, and in this Territory where the ownership of mills rests exclusively with private corporations, the securing of co-operation in place of illegitimate competition and discrimination will be difficult, and laws must be enacted that will accomplish this. Governmental supervision will wipe out of existence preferential rates and give to the homestead planter a square deal, viz., an equitable return for his raw material or manufactured product."

On a Cash Basis

The Kealia store has been put on what is known as a "cash basis". In other words, it extends no credit to any one, keeping a customer's account with the Makee Sugar Company (its owner) only. Plantation laborers are required to pay cash for their merchandise, and they, in return, are paid cash for their services.

We heartily endorse the plan, and hope that it will succeed. It is a step in advance and in the right direction. The curse of Kauai is its loose-jointed credit system. A majority of the laborers on the plantations are indebted to the stores all the time, and these still, are getting deeper and deeper in debt. Dozens and scores of laborers "skip out" in the run of a year, leaving large unpaid bills behind, which the honest laborer must foot in the long run.

We would like to see every plantation store on Kauai adopt the same scheme, and every independent store work around to it as quickly as possible. It would teach the laborer, who has no business with an account at the stores anyway—to save; and would work itself around into a far more prosperous and satisfactory state of things with both customer and merchant.

It is entirely proper that the plantation stores should lead off in the movement. They might lose a few dollars at first, but gradually all of their competitors would work around to it. When once thoroughly established on this island we are quite confident that the system would give such general satisfaction that neither customers nor merchants would consider for a moment going back to the old way.

Enforce The Rule

THE charge was made by a liquor commissioner before the meeting of his board last Thursday that the regulation forbidding the practice of soliciting orders for

liquors was being openly and generally violated.

Why, may we ask, are the regulations of the board being violated? Why are the persons guilty of violating these regulations permitted to go unpunished? There is evidence of weak-knees somewhere. It cannot be argued for a second that the commissioners are without authority and power to enforce their regulations. They are all powerful; they are the "whole cheese"—they are IT, when it comes to the matter of regulating the liquor traffic.

This is a proper matter for the grand jury to take up at its approaching session. It is a public question. Let the jury ascertain the truth as to whether or not the regulations of the Liquor Commissioners are being violated, and if so by whom and in what manner. If it is found that the regulations of the Commissioners are being violated, as openly charged, then the guilty persons should be made to suffer.

We quite agree that there is no use for a law that is not enforced, but fail to see what good is to come of repealing a law because it is not carried out. The thing to do is to enforce the rule to the limit. If it is a bad regulation, the fact will soon appear and it can be repealed; but for a legislative body to repeal a law because it is not being enforced is unthinkable.

"The Oahu Blight"

Over at Honolulu they are referring to the blight which has appeared in the Wahiawa pineapple fields as the "Kauai blight", and terms to the same effect. This is highly ridiculous and equally unfair. In the first place, Oahu pineapple fields have had this same "blight", or whatever it is, for years, as anyone may find out by inquiry of Byron O. Clark or any of the Wahiawa growers. It was an old story there years before any trace of it appeared on this island. In fact, Oahu has always had more or less of it, while Kauai has experienced only one visitation—that for a few weeks about a year ago. There has been none of it on this island since, and the present crop, which will be cut between July 5 and 10, is absolutely clean.

In the opinion of Dr. E. V. Wilcox and the experts of his department the peculiar ailment is caused either by unusual rainfall or some atmospheric condition, and affects only such localities as afford those conditions. It is not "contagious", to use a familiar term, and consequently its spread is not to be feared. The damage as a result of it has never been larger on Kauai than elsewhere—and that, in dollars and cents, was really very small.

But the point we wish to make is that we object strenuously to the newspapers or persons at Honolulu referring to the Wahiawa visitation as the "Kauai blight". It would be much nearer the truth to call it the "Oahu blight", for it was an old thing on that island before it was heard of anywhere else in the group.

HONOLULU WILL HAVE saloon dead-falls and scandals just so long as licenses are granted for such districts as Chinatown, Iwilei and Kakaako. The rule of the old Republic of Hawaii, which confined saloons to narrow limits, was most wise, and the city should go directly back to it. Confine saloons to respectable localities and they will themselves attain respectability (or as nearly as possible for such institutions); but, on the other hand, plant them in isolated or rowdy neighborhoods and you fire the tinder of debauchery, iniquity and crime. Liquor men should not themselves oppose this idea, for it offers to remove the present cause of complaint and as a natural sequence a large percentage of the objection to their business in Honolulu.

THOSE BUMPY stretches on the Lihue side of Koloa are rapidly giving the roads of Kauai a bad reputation.

WE STILL THINK that with improved system and diligent practice the Lihue baseball team might be able to give a good account of itself in the second series. It is worth trying for.

JOE FERN, Harry Murray, John Lane or Joe Cohen for mayor of Honolulu. It is pretty tough picking.

THE FLIGHT of United States District Attorney McCarn is most regrettable, and doubtless his friends feel it quite as much as he. We have little sympathy in the Islands, however, for men who take the law into their own hands, even if there be provocation; and quite none at all for persons making gun-plays. Gun-plays are the resort of the cowardly or vicious. General Robert E. Lee said that a pistol-toter was either a coward or a murderer at heart—and we in Hawaii think the old soldier was about right. McCarn had better give his gun to some collector of curios.

IT IS NOW proposed to change the name of the Mid-Pacific Carnival to the Hawaiian word "Hoonano". The Carnival is the outgrowth of the Floral Parade, and the Floral Parade was established as a feature of the Washington's Birthday festivities. If the Carnival is to be Hawaiianized, why not also ring in Christmas, Fourth of July, Memorial Day and a few others? It may be all right, but we have our doubts.

THE APPEARANCE of the so-called blight on the pineapples of Oahu goes to prove that the disease, whatever it is, is due to the weather; and probably results from an over abundance of moisture. There has never been any indication that it was contagious or would spread to fields or islands not affected by like conditions of climate and moisture; and the appearance of the strange malady on Oahu is probably spontaneous, as it was here. Thus far this year the pineapple fields of Kauai have not been affected.

SHOULD ROOSEVELT definitely and finally decide to break away from the Progressive Party, it will probably be the end of that party (for it is hardly possible that Governor Carter and "Jack" Atkinson will decide to go it alone). The signs of the times seem to show that Roosevelt's palms have for months been itching for the Republican nomination plum in 1916, and he has probably been encouraged by leaders of the Republican party to scuttle his own ship to that end. With Roosevelt side-stepping the party, what is to become of those misguided persons in Hawaii who have placed themselves under the banner of the Progressive Party? They will likely find themselves high and dry before election day comes around.

THE GARDEN ISLAND's dreamer, who has a little fun with the political bees in another column of this issue, is probably only half right in regard to the intentions of Hon. J. H. Coney. Mr. Coney has been urged to run for the Senate; but his own opinion is that he can best serve Kauai in the House at the next session, and when the candidate are all lined up he will, in all probability, be found in the running for re-election to his present seat.

ON SOME of the lines around Lihue, the telephones are working unusually bad, due, perhaps, to the proximity of the electric light and power wires. Complaints have reached this office from country telephones having more or less frequent Lihue calls. THE GARDEN ISLAND is assured that the trouble will be modified in time, and hopes that there may be a little more patience.

THE HONOLULU Chamber of Commerce has voted to employ an attorney at Washington to attend to the work for which Kuhio was elected and paid to do. What better argument can the business interests of the Islands have that a change to a competent and active representative in Congress is required? Surely the past experiment has been a fizzle.

THE COMBINATION of Roosevelt and the Pinchots seems to be working like a mixture of soda and vinegar.

JACK JOHNSON, by gaining a decision over Moran in Paris Sunday, is still champion pugilist of the world, although from the meager cable and wireless accounts received here it would seem that he has lost some of his old-time punch. Age and habits are probably getting in their work.

THE MEXICAN REBELS now announce that they will capture the City of Mexico in less than a month. Mexico City has been captured so many times in the past ten years that the world is not apt to throw a fit if she again passes through the experience.

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